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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard T. Childress
Director of Political-Military Affairs
National Security Council

SUBJECT: Execution of U.S. POW's in 1970s

REFERENCE: Your Memo dated 8 February 1985

In response to your query of 8 February 1985, a review of our holdings did not reveal any specific Agency intelligence reports concerning large scale execution of American POW's. The only reference to large scale execution was sourced to a rumor and was contained in a 1974 debriefing report of Thai POW's. In that report, one Thai POW said he had heard a rumor while imprisoned at the Hoa Lo facility that a group of American pilots held in Sam Neua prison camp in Laos were executed by the Pathet Lao. The Thai POW did not have any further details on the execution. Our search also revealed two reports, one from DIA (dated August 1976) and one from OJCS-C, Washington, D.C., (dated Oct 80) which refer to the killing of American POW's. Copies of these two reports are attached.

In view of the August 76 DIA report, it is possible that DIA may have additional reporting concerning the execution of American POW's. You may find it worthwhile to query them on this matter.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS:



Attachments



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